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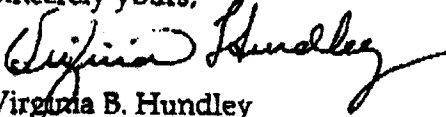
Ms. Renata Hesse
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

Regarding the Microsoft settlement, the following are my comments on this proposed agreement.

The agreement specifies that Microsoft would have to promptly disclose technical information that enables any Windows operating system to communicate with Microsoft servers and with all Microsoft middleware products. Also, to encourage more non-Microsoft middleware, the settlement forces Microsoft to license any intellectual property rights that others might need to compete with Microsoft. As with computer manufacturers, Microsoft could not penalize any software developer, service provider, or hardware vendor that develops or sells products that compete with Windows and Microsoft middleware. The net result is that all information technology providers, including Microsoft's competitors, are guaranteed access to technical specifications. That's pretty good.

Sincerely yours,



Virginia B. Hundley

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